



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Kimoto, Norihiro *et al.*

Serial No.: 10/619779

Filed: July 15, 2003

For: *ALPHA-KETO ACID REDUCTASE, METHOD
FOR PRODUCING THE SAME, AND METHOD
FOR PRODUCING OPTICALLY ACTIVE ALPHA-
HYDROXY ACIDS USING THE SAME*

Attorney Docket No.: SHZ-015

Group Art Unit: 1744

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Certificate of First Class Mailing (37 CFR §1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on the date set forth below.

14 January 04
Date of Signature and of Mail Deposit

By:

Jeanne M. DiGiorgio
Reg. No. 41,710
Attorney for Applicants

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Applicants and their Attorney have become aware of the following publications and information, cited in a European Search Report dated December 12, 2003 during the prosecution of EP 03016163 which corresponds to the above-referenced application. In accordance with 37 CFR §1.97, Applicants hereby submit these publications for the Examiner's consideration. These publications are cited on the

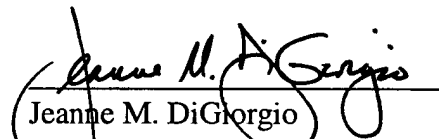
enclosed PTO Form SB-08, and a copy of the Report and each publication cited thereon are enclosed as well.

This statement is not to be interpreted as a representation that the cited publications are material, that an exhaustive search has been conducted, or that no other relevant information exists. Nor shall the citation of any publication herein be construed *per se* as a representation that such publication is prior art. Moreover, the Applicants understand that the Examiner will make an independent evaluation of the cited publications.

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1), the undersigned hereby certifies that each item contained in this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application *for the first time* not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(b)(1), no additional costs are believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement. However, please charge any necessary fees in connection with the enclosed statement to our Deposit Order Account No. 12-0080.

Respectfully submitted,
LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP

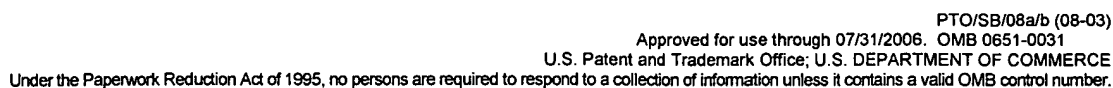


Jeanne M. DiGiorgio
Registration No. 41,710
Attorney for Applicants

28 State Street
Boston, MA 02109
(617) 227-7400

Date: 14 January 04

EAH/JMD/alf
Enclosures



*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible.

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.